participation in fairs and festivals such as Deepawali Deep Utsav at Delhi Haat, Indian International Trade Fair at Pragati Maidan, Surajkund Craft Mela, Surajkund, Toshali Mega Craft Mela and Shopping Festival, Bhubaneswar etc.

Harassment of foreign tourists

4278. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL:
SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware to harassment, molestation, rape and murder of foreign tourists in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details of such incidents reported during the last one year, and till date;

(c) whether Government proposes to set up 24-hour tourist helpline for foreign tourists and publicize through Government of India Tourist offices abroad;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (e) 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India and as such, the registration, detection and prevention of crimes, including crimes against tourists, is the primary responsibility of State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. The data on incidents of crimes against tourists, including foreign tourists is not compiled by Ministry of Tourism. Following recent media reports regarding harassment with tourists in India, the Ministry of Tourism discussed the issue of safety and security of tourists with Secretaries of Tourism of States/Union Territories and representatives of Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Defence. It was emphasized that ensuring the safety and security of tourists is paramount importance and State Governments/Union Territories must ensure the same.

National Policy for adventure tourism

4279. MS. MABEL REBELLO:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to formulate a National Policy to boost adventure tourism.

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether the Adventure Tourism Industry has asked for certain incentives to promote this sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, *inter-alia,* indicating the action plan of Government to promote this tourism in Orissa and Jharkhand sectors?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (d) The National Tourism Policy focuses on development and promotion of tourism including adventure tourism

in the country. The Ministry of Tourism along with Adventure Tour Operators Association of India (ATOAI) comprising recognized adventure tour operators promote adventure tourism in the country.

Ministry of Tourism extends Central Financial Assistance to the State Governments/UT Administration for the development and promotion of tourism projects including adventure tourism on the basis of proposals received from them subject to availability of funds and *inter-se* priorities. The details of Central Financial Assistance provided to Orissa and Jharkhand for development and promotion of Adventure Tourism is given in the Statement.

Statement

The details of Central assistance extended to Orissa and Jharkhand for development and promotion of Adventrue Tourism

States	Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Year of Sanction	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. in lakh)
Orissa	1.	Development of Gopalpur-on-Sea (Dist. Ganjam) in Orissa as a tourist destination	2004-05	447.22
	2.	Development of Chilka Lake (Distt. Puri and Ganjam) as a tourist destination	2004-05	389.05
	3.	Watersports, Chanderbhaga, on Bhubaneswar, Dhauli-Puri-Konark Tourist Circuit	2004-05	262.00
	4.	Integrated development of Koraput Circuit - Koraput Deomali-Jeypore-Upper Kolab-Gupteshwar	2006-07	692.00
Jharkhand	1.	Celebration of Adventure Tourism Festival Ghatshila, Jamshedpur	2005-06	4.20
	2.	Celebration of Hazaribagh Cultural-cum-Adventure Festival at Hazaribagh	2005-06	5.00
	3.	Production of CD ROM on Adventure Tourism	2006-07	9.80

Buddhist tourist potential in Orissa and Jharkhand

4280. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. MABEL REBELLO:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has received amount 5 million tourists during 2007;